

***Contractor Coordination Meeting  
Fuel Cells for Transportation Program,  
Washington DC, October 30, 2001***

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***Title of Project: Development of  
High-Performance, Low-Pt Cathodes***

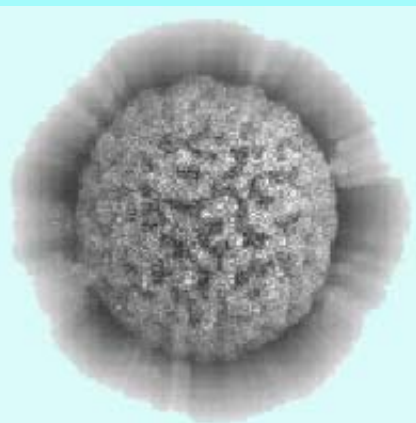
***Contractor: Superior MicroPowders***

***3740 Hawkins, NE***

***Albuquerque, NM 87109, USA***

***[www.superiormicropowders.com](http://www.superiormicropowders.com)***

***Phone: (505) 342-1492; Fax: (505)342-1492***



# ***Development of High-Performance, Low-Pt Cathodes***

## ***Subcontractors:***

***Combinatorial Discovery Company  
Computational Fluid Dynamics RC (CFDRC)***

***Stack Testing in Kind:  
Automotive Fuel Cell Manufacturers***

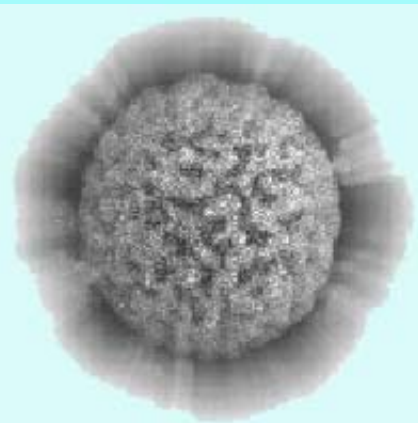
## ***Principal Investigator:***

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Product Development Manger  
Fuel Cell Materials***

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# ***Development of High-Performance, Low-Pt Cathodes***

***Project Duration:***

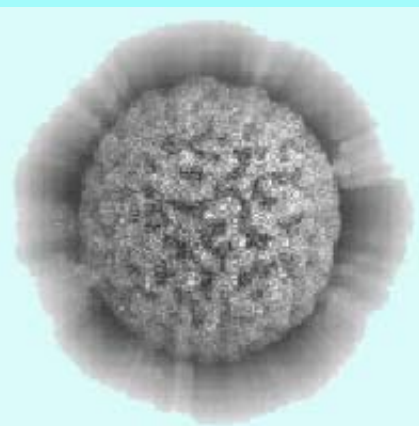
***Start Date: September 1<sup>st</sup>, 2001***

***Duration: 43 months***

***End Date: March 31<sup>st</sup>, 2005***

***Funding:***

***Total Contract Value: \$3,625,000***



# ***Development of High-Performance, Low-Pt Cathodes***

- ***The Problem:***

- Large amount of Pt used in electrodes
- High price of Pt and high volatility of the PM
- High fabrication cost of electrode components

- ***The Need:***

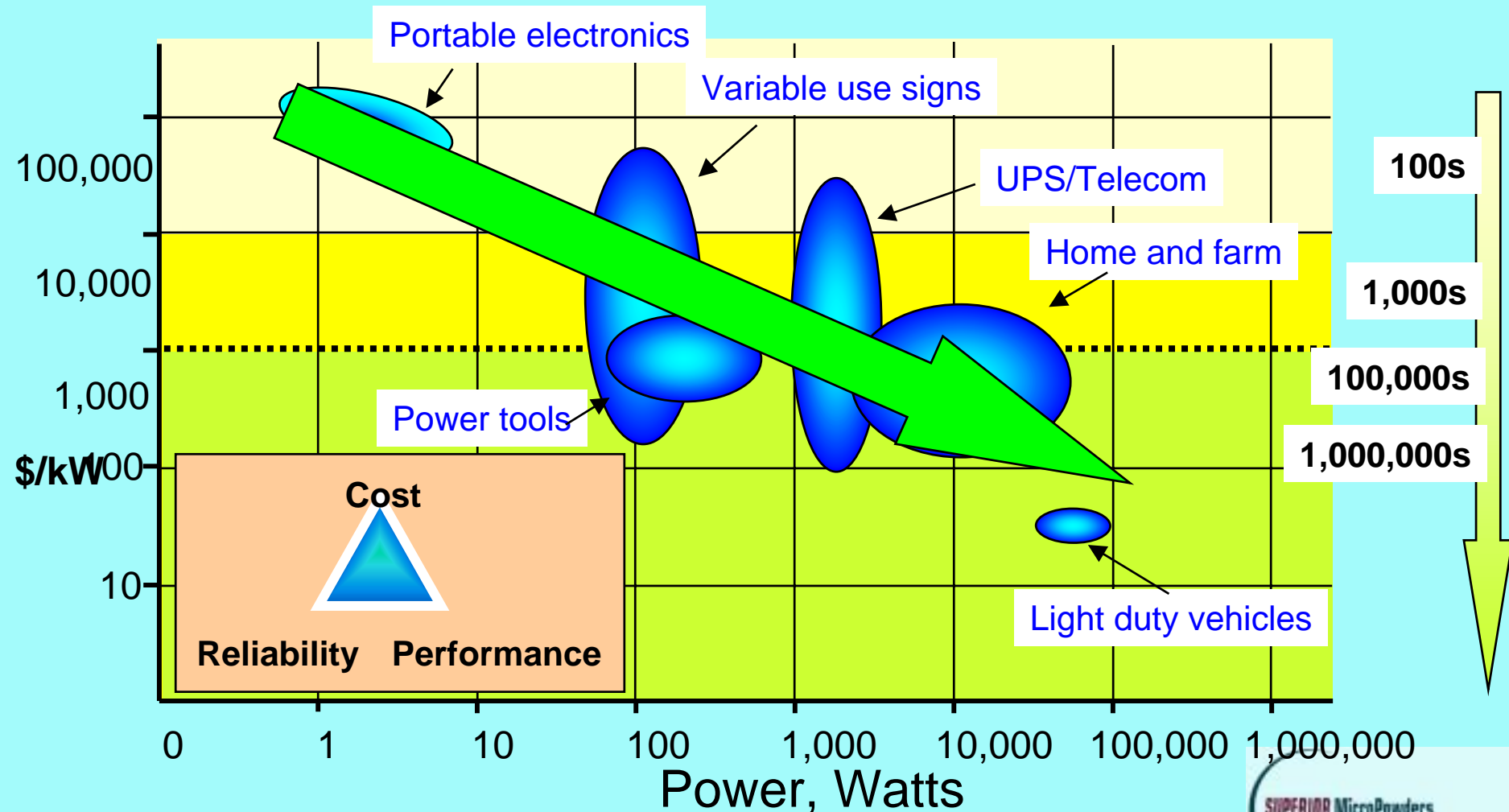
- High-volume, low-cost production of high-performance reproducible low-Pt electrocatalyst powders

- ***The Solution Platform:***

- SMP's revolutionary spray-based process for manufacturing of electrocatalyst powders

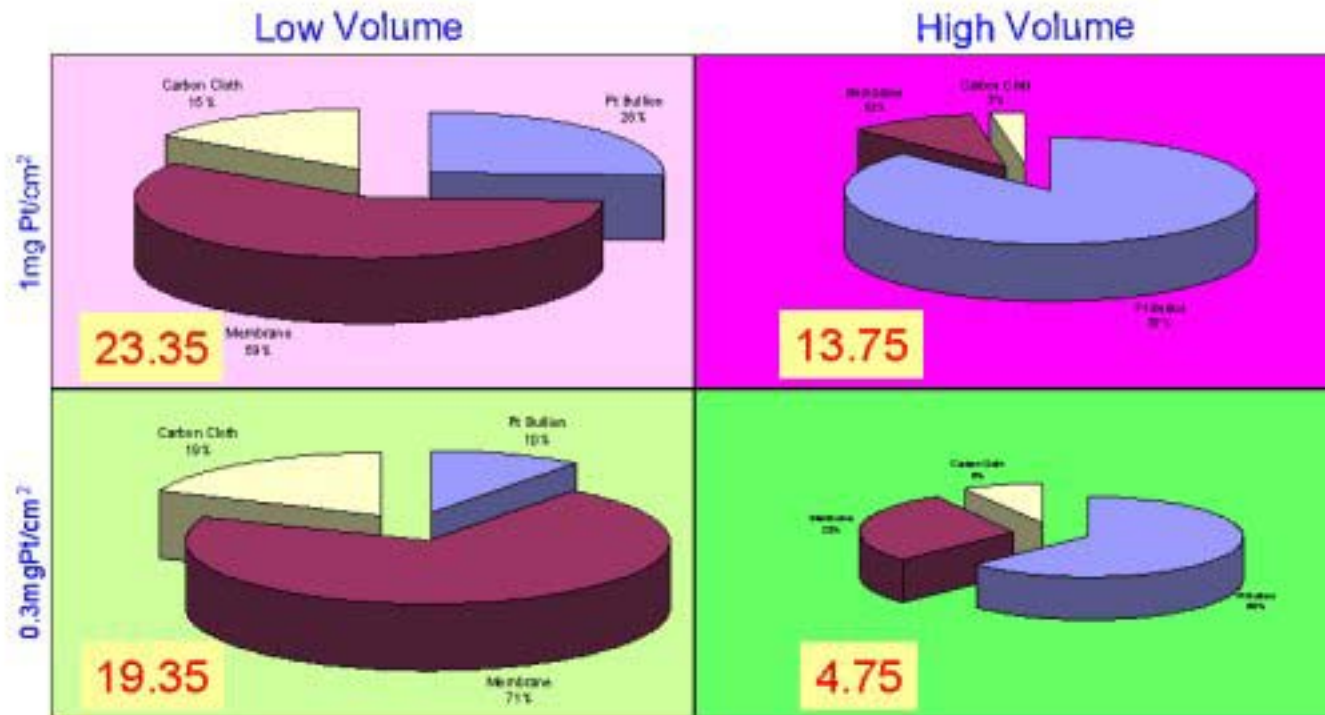
# ***The Problem:***

## ***Market Entry Barrier: Cost to Consumer***

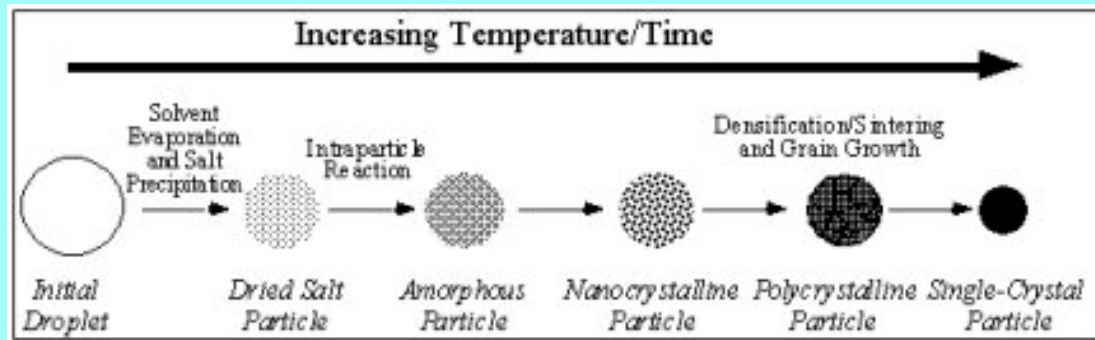


# ***The Problem:***

## ***Market Entry Barrier: Component Costs***



# ***The Solution Platform: SMP's Spray Based EC Manufacturing***

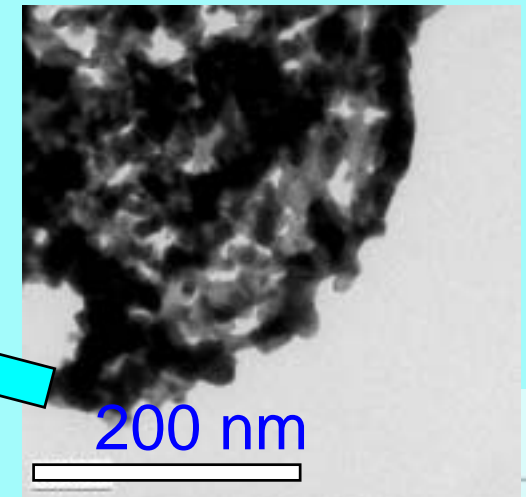
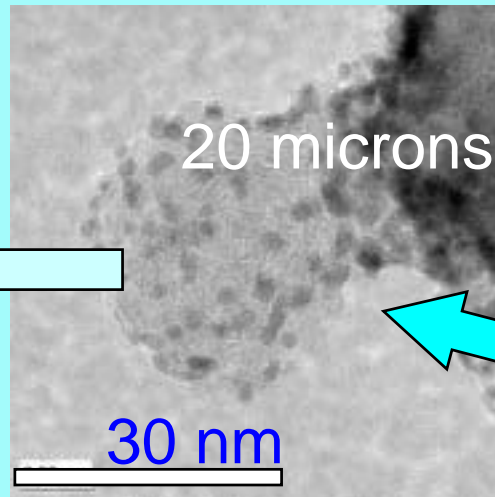
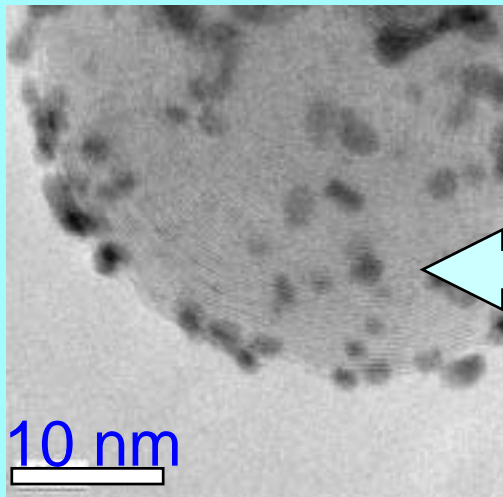
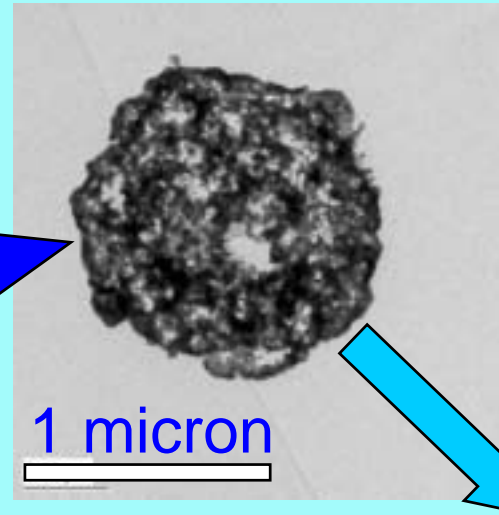
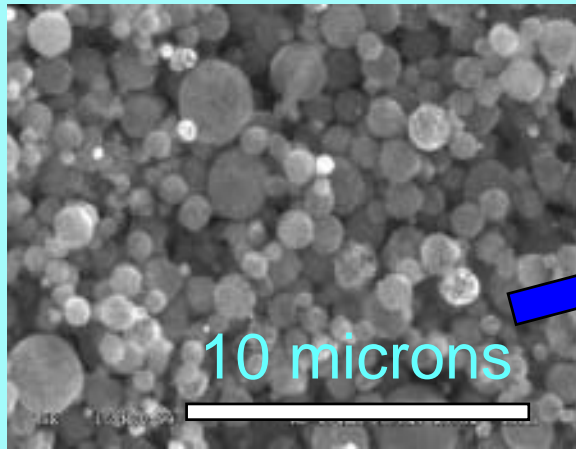


- Simple, robust, reliable process
  - Highly controllable, single step processing
  - Highly reproducible
  - “Green” methodology with minimal waste streams
- Not material specific
  - Inorganics, organics, metals, metal oxides
- Ability to highly engineer critical properties
  - Particle morphologies
  - Particle size distributions
  - Bulk chemistries and structures
  - Surface chemistries and structures
  - Complicated compositions



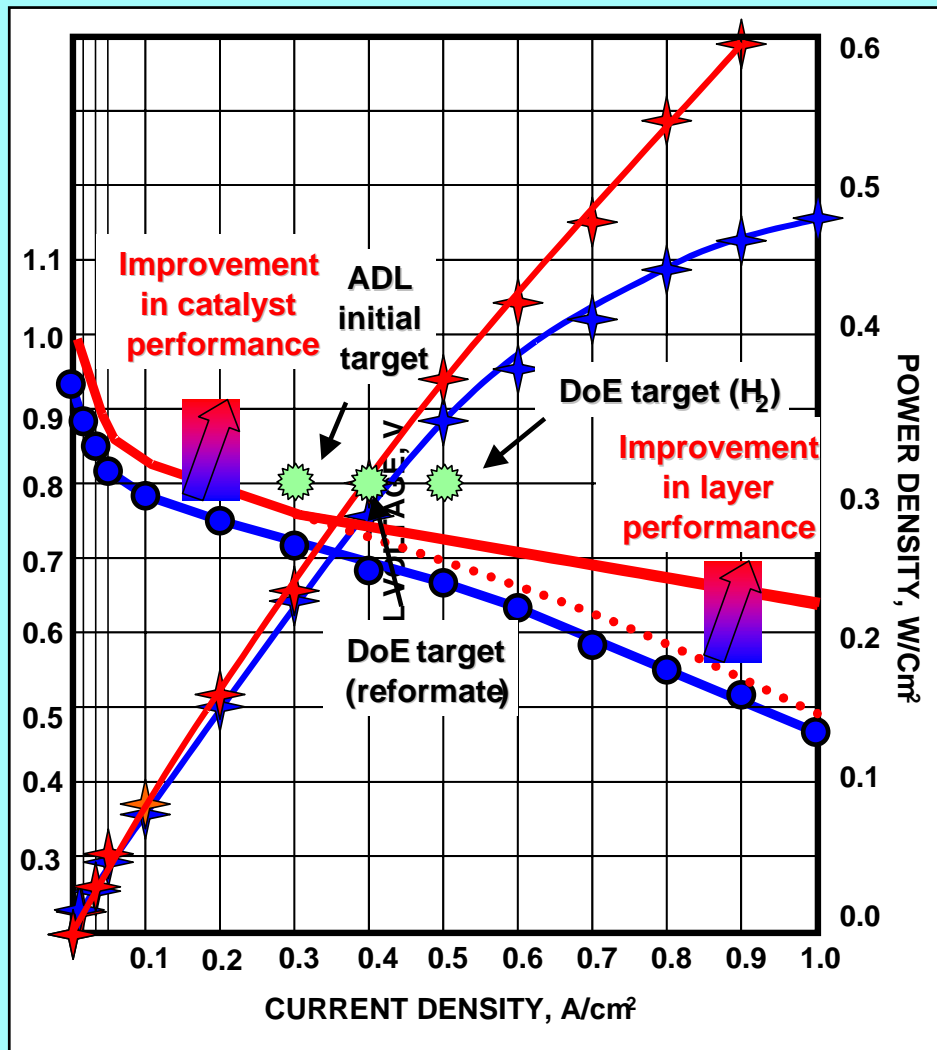


# ***Hierarchical Structure of SMP Electrocatalyst***





# Technical Goals and Objectives

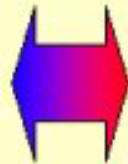
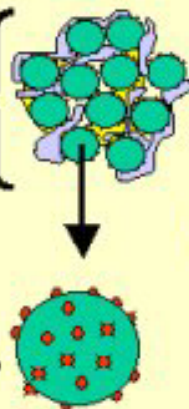
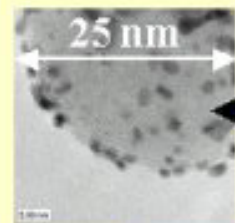
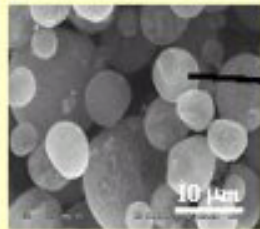


- DOE target performance:
  - 1 gPt/kW at 0.8 V pressurized gases
- SMP current performance:  
(atm. pressure):
  - 0.2 mg Pt/cm<sup>2</sup> cathode loading
  - 3.3 gPt/kW at 0.8V
  - 1.1 gPt/kW at 0.7 V
  - 0.6 gPt/kW at 0.6 V

# Technical Concept

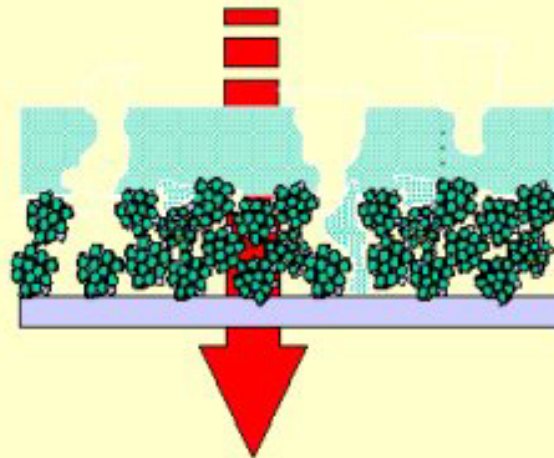
## Effort 1

Discovery of new, low Pt catalyst compositions and particle microstructures



## Effort 2

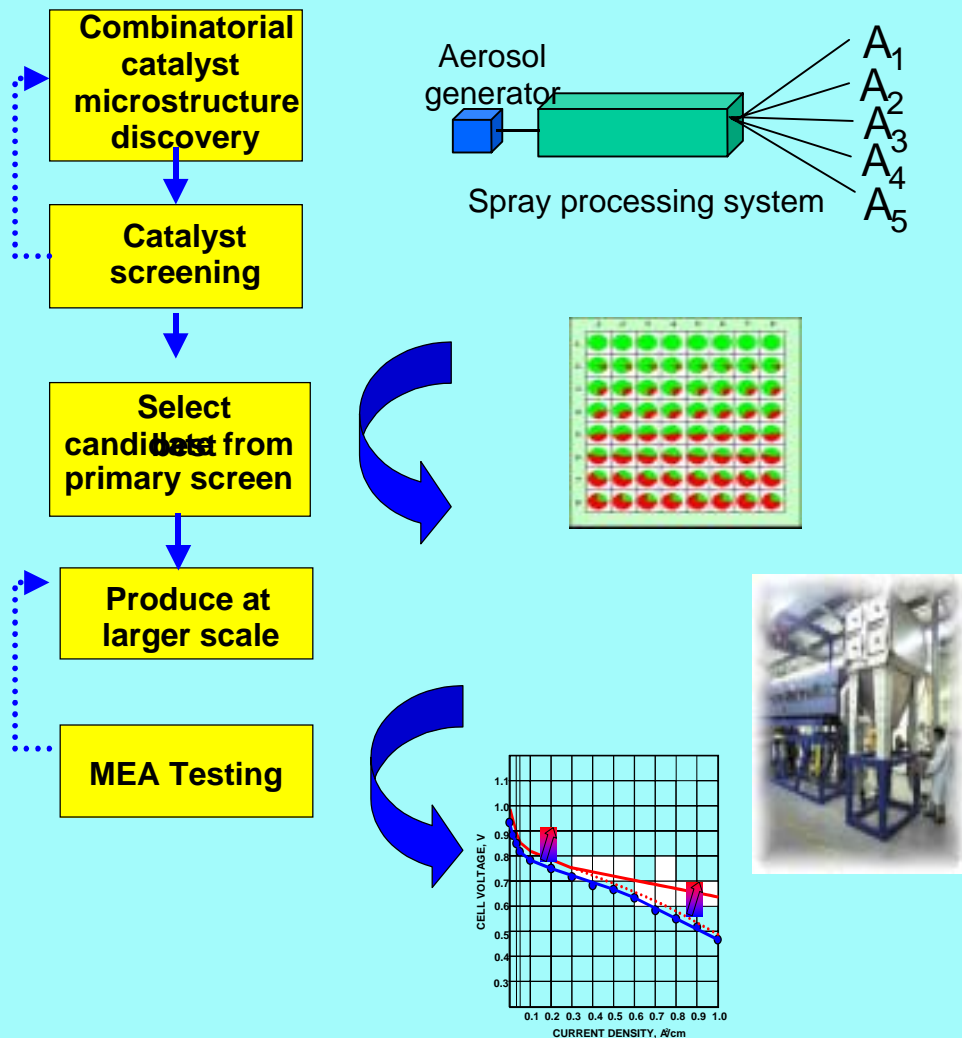
Modeling and deposition of engineered cathode layers



**High Performance Low-Cost MEA**

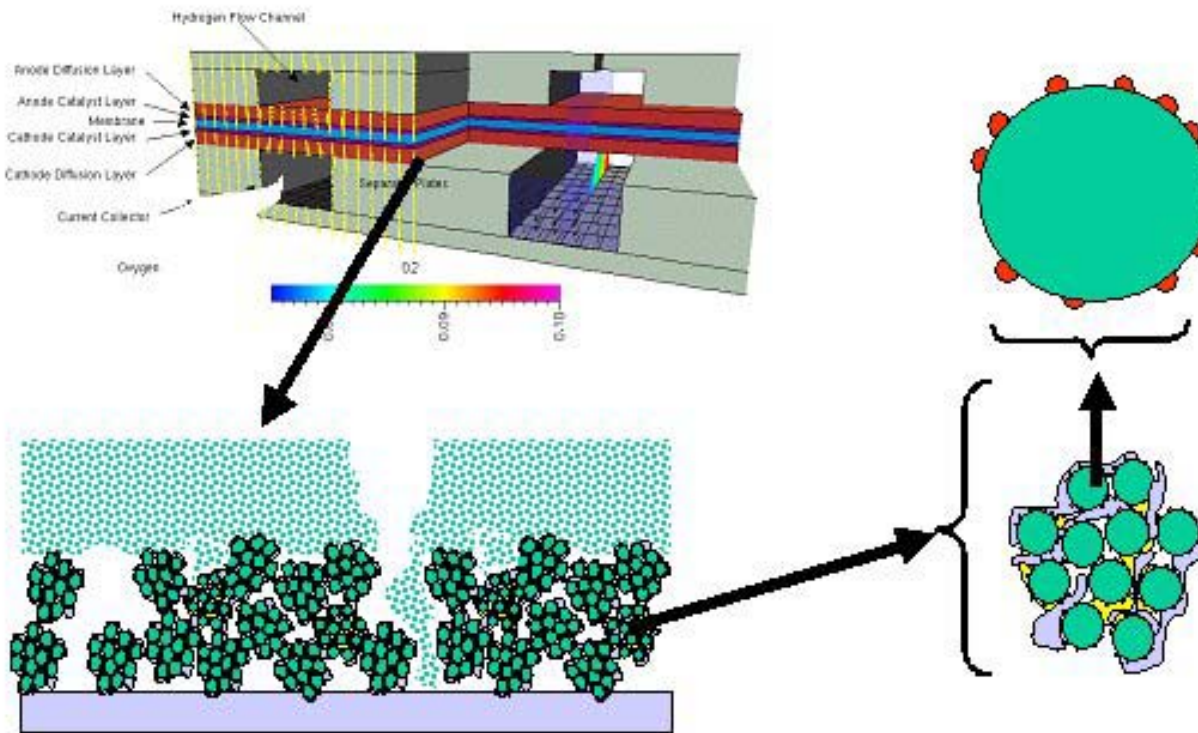
- *Effort 1:*
  - SMP
  - CC
- *Effort 2:*
  - SMP/
  - CFDRC
- *Short Stack Testing*

# Work Plan Effort 1: Combinatorial Approach



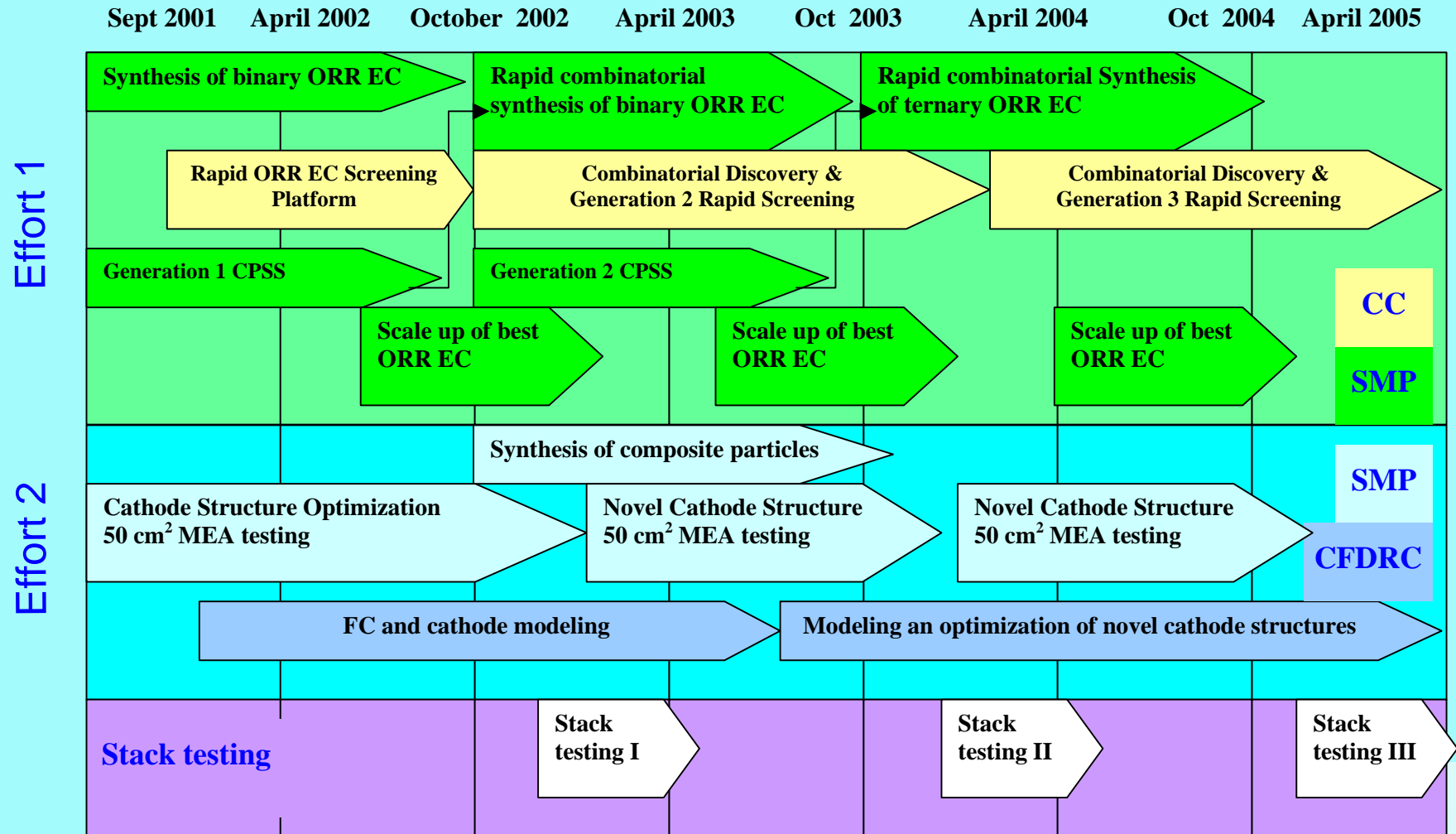
- **Combinatorial Powder Synthesis System (CPSS)**
  - Synthesis of Binary Alloys and Mixed Metal/Metal Oxides
  - Synthesis of Ternary Alloys
- **Rapid Catalyst Screening for ORR Activity**

# Work Plan Effort 2: Engineered Cathode Structures

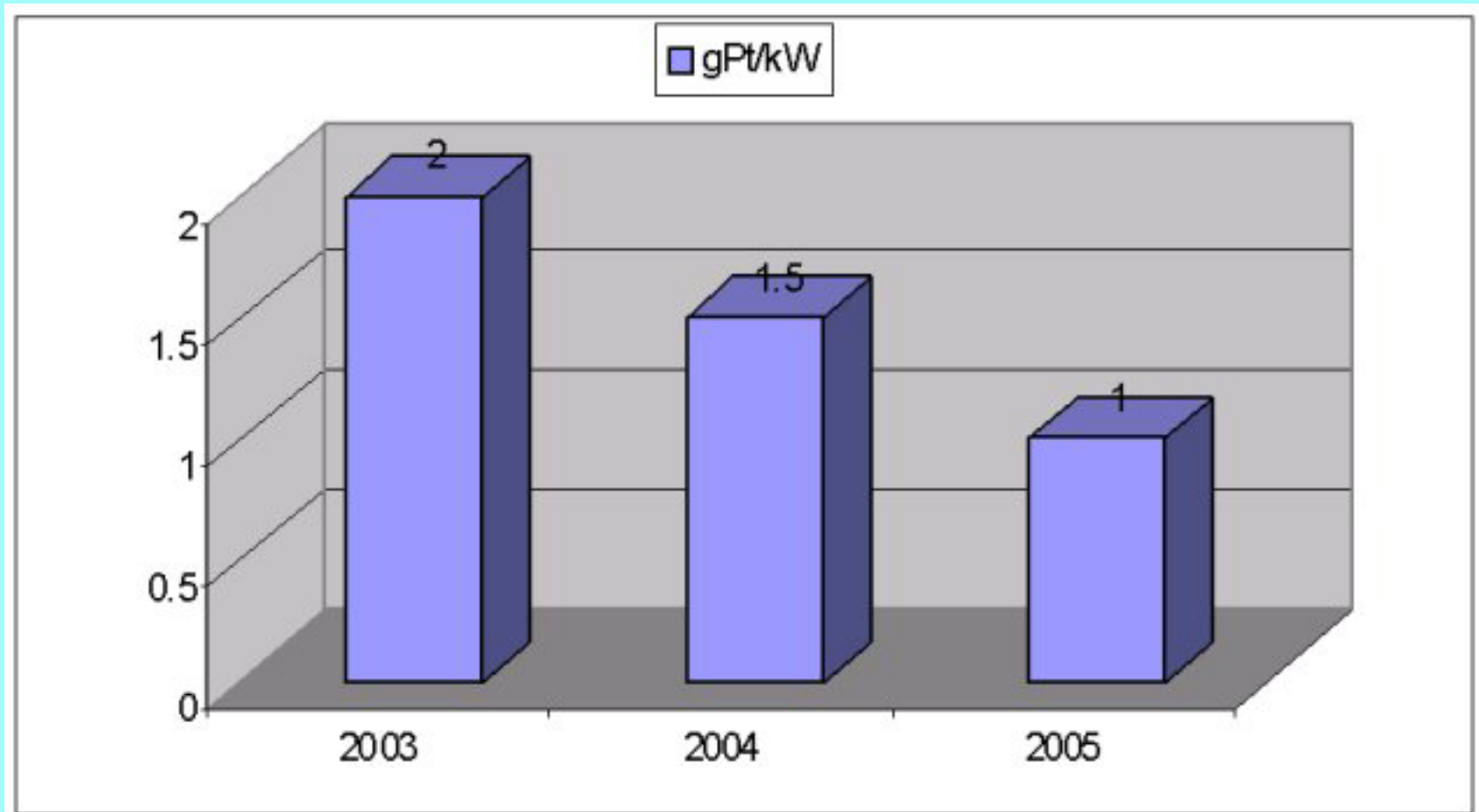


- **Fuel Cell and Cathode Modeling (CFDRC)**
- **Engineered Cathode Structures (SMP)**
  - Composite particles
  - Novel cathode structures
- **Testing in small scale (50 cm<sup>2</sup>) MEA (SMP)**

# Project Schedule & Milestones



# ***Performance Targets and Milestones***





# ***Success of the Project***

- *Meet or exceed the DOE Targets for performance at low Pt loading in automotive fuel cell stack test.*
- *Demonstrate ability to manufacture materials and structures developed in this program at high volume and low cost.*

# ***Collaboration/Cooperation***

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- Collaboration with DOE funded National Lab projects for fundamental studies
- Cooperation with other DOE funded projects:
  - Improved or novel membranes
  - Improved or novel GDL
  - Improved components and FC designs
  - Novel catalyst compositions